

## Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

## § 2.15

employ a normalization method for computing federal income taxes in their accounts and annual reports with respect to property constructed or acquired after January 1, 1970, to the extent with which such property increases the productive or operational capacity of the utility and is not a replacement of existing capacity. Such normalization will also be permitted for ratemaking purposes to the extent such rates are subject to the Commission's ratemaking authority. As to balances in Account 282 of the Uniform System of Accounts, "Accumulated deferred income taxes—Other property," it will remain the Commission's policy to deduct such balances from rate base in rate proceedings.

(Secs. 3, 4, 15, 16, 301, 304, 308, and 309 (41 Stat. 1063–1066, 1068, 1072, 1075; 49 Stat. 838, 839, 840, 841, 854–856, 858–859; 82 Stat. 617; 16 U.S.C. 796, 797, 803, 808, 809, 816, 825, 825b, 825c, 825g, 825h, 826i), as amended, Secs. 8, 10, and 16 (52 Stat. 825–826, 830; 15 U.S.C. 717g, 717i, 717o))

[Order 404, 35 FR 7964, May 23, 1970, as amended by Order 567, 42 FR 30612, June 16, 1977]

### § 2.13 Design and construction.

(a) The Commission recognizes the importance of protecting and enhancing natural, historic, scenic, and recreational values at projects licensed or proposed to be licensed under the Federal Power Act.

(b) The Commission has adopted "Guidelines for the Protection of Natural, Historic, Scenic, and Recreational Values in the Design and Location of Rights-of-Way and Transmission Facilities"<sup>1</sup> as set forth in Order No. 414 issued November 27, 1970. The Commission will consider these guidelines *inter alia*, in the determination of whether applications for any licenses under the Federal Power Act are best adapted to a comprehensive plan for developing a waterway. The guidelines may be obtained from the Office of Public Information, Federal Power Commission, Washington, DC 20426.

(c) In furtherance of these policies, the Commission will not (1) permit the amendment of any license for the purpose of construction of additional facilities or (2) authorize the disposition

of any interest in project lands for construction of any type, unless a showing is made that the construction will be designed to avoid or minimize conflict with the natural, historic, and scenic values and resources of the project area, including compliance with the Commission's "Guidelines for the Protection of Natural, Historic, Scenic, and Recreational Values in the Design and Location of Rights-of-Way and Transmission Facilities".

(Secs. 3, 4, 15, 16, 301, 304, 308, and 309 (41 Stat. 1063–1066, 1068, 1072, 1075; 49 Stat. 838, 839, 840, 841, 854–856, 858–859; 82 Stat. 617; 16 U.S.C. 796, 797, 803, 808, 809, 816, 825, 825b, 825c, 825g, 825h, 826i), as amended, Secs. 8, 10, and 16 (52 Stat. 825–826, 830; 15 U.S.C. 717g, 717i, 717o))

[Order 414, 35 FR 18586, Dec. 8, 1970, as amended by Order 567, 42 FR 30612, June 16, 1977]

### § 2.15 Specified reasonable rate of return.

(a) Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Power Act, the Commission has determined that the specified reasonable rate of return used in computing amortization reserves for hydroelectric project licenses shall be calculated annually based on current capital ratios developed from an average of 13 monthly balances of amounts properly includible in the licensee's long-term debt and proprietary capital accounts, as listed in the Commission's Uniform System of Accounts. The cost rate for such ratios shall be the weighted average cost of long-term debt and preferred stock for the year, and the cost of common equity shall be the interest rate on 10-year government bonds (reported as the Treasury Department's 10-year constant maturity series) computed on the monthly average for the year in question, plus four percentage points (400 basis points).

(b) The Statement of Policy adopted herein shall be effective upon issuance of this order.

(c) The Secretary shall cause prompt publication of this order to be made in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(d) All requests and suggestions not specifically dealt with herein are hereby denied.

(e) The Secretary is hereby authorized to change the appropriate license

<sup>1</sup> Filed as part of the original document.